**FILED** 

MAR 30 2015

SUSAN M. SPRAUL, CLERK U.S. BKCY, APP. PANEL OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY APPELLATE PANEL

#### OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT

In re:	) BAP Nos. NV-15-1048 ) NV-15-1064			
DEBRA LEIGH JACOBS,	) (Cross-Appeals)			
Debtor.	) Bk. No. 2:04-bk-19619-GS			
DEBRA LEIGH JACOBS,	) )			
Appellant/ Cross-Appellee,	) )			
V.	ORDER TRANSFERRING CROSS- APPEALS TO THE UNITED			
BRAIN POWER AMERICA INC.; JOHN W. MUIJE,	) STATES DISTRICT COURT )			
Appellees/ Cross-Appellants.	) ) )			

Before: KIRSCHER, PAPPAS and DUNN, Bankruptcy Judges.

By order entered March 30, 2015, the Panel overruled the untimely election filed by appellees/cross-appellants. However, a third appeal has been filed wherein the appellant timely elected to have the appeal heard by the U.S. district court (USDC no. 2:15-cv-00533-JAD). The three appeals have identical parties and similar subject matter, though the third appeal is from a different order. There is some potential that inconsistent rulings could result from the three appeals being heard before different courts.

Under 9th Cir. BAP Rule 8001(e)-1(a),

The Panel may transfer an appeal to the district court to further the interests of justice, such as when a timely statement of election has been filed in a related appeal, or for any other reason the Panel deems appropriate.

The Panel finds that it would be in the interests of justice and judicial economy for these cross-appeals to proceed before the United States District Court.

Therefore, these cross-appeals are hereby ORDERED

TRANSFERRED to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada.

CHRISTOPHER P. BURKE, ESQ. ECF Filed on 2/10/15 1 Nevada Bar No.: 004093 atty@cburke.lvcoxmail.com 218 S. Maryland Pkwy. 3 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 385-7987 Attorney for Debtor 4 5 6 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 7 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA** 8 In re: Case No.: BK-S-04-19619-GS 10 DEBRA LEIGH JACOBS, Chapter 13 Debtor. 11 12 13 **NOTICE OF APPEAL** 14 COME NOW, Debra Leigh Jacobs, by and through her counsel, Christopher P. Burke, Esq., and hereby appeals under 28 U.S.C. §158(a) the Bankruptcy Court's Order Addressing 15 16 Various Requests for Relief and Briefly Maintaining Open Status of File, entered on January 27, 2015 in the above entitled matter. (See Ex. 'A' Dkt. #224). The Parties to the Appeal of 17 18 this Order and the names and addresses of their respective attorneys are as follows: 19 20 Debra L. Jacobs Brain Power America Inc. c/o Christopher P. Burke Esq. and John W. Muije 21 218 S. Maryland Parkway c/o John W. Muije, Esq. Las Vegas, NV 89101 1840 E. Sahara Ave. #106 22 Las Vegas, NV 89104 Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015 23 /S/ CHRISTOPHER P. BURKE, ESQ. CHRISTOPHER P. BURKE, ESQ. 24 25 Nevada Bar. No.: 004093 218 S. Maryland Pkwy. 26 Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 385-7987 27 Attorney for Debtor 28

## Ex. A

Honorable Gary Spraker United States Bankruptcy Judge



<sup>4</sup>Entered on Docket January 27, 2015

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ORDR

JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES

JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 2419

1840 E. Sahara Ave #106

Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: (702) 386-7002

Facsimile No: (702) 386-9135

E-Mail: jmuije@muijelawoffice.com Attorneys for Plaintiff/Creditor Brain Power America Incorporated

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

In Re:

DEBRA L. JACOBS,

Debtor(s).

Case No: BK-S-04-19619-GS

Chapter 13

Date of Hearing: Dec. 15, 2014 Time of Hearing: 2:30 P.M.

#### ORDER ADDRESSING VARIOUS REQUESTS FOR RELIEF AND BRIEFLY MAINTAINING OPEN STATUS OF FILE

This matter came on for hearing upon the Debtor's Motion to Reopen Chapter 13 Case and to Hold John W. Muije and Brain Power America Incorporated In Contempt (Docket No. 193), the Court having considered the parties briefing regarding the same and having entered a preliminary

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Order providing for the limited reopening of the case (Docket No. 206), and having requested supplemental briefing regarding perfection of Brain Power America, Inc. (hereinafter "Brain Power") judgment lien vis a vis the subsequently recorded homestead of the debtor, pursuant to the Court's prior ordered Brain Power also having filed a Motion for Rule 9011 Sanctions against the Debtor and her counsel, Christopher Burke, the Court having very carefully reviewed and considered the various pleadings, briefs, and documents on file herein and having reviewed the applicable case law and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court entertained a final hearing on the time and date noted above, after having afforded the parties an opportunity to file supplemental briefs on or about December 8, 2014;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Brain Power was represented by John W. Muije of the firm of John W. Muije & Associates, and the Debtor, Debra L. Jacobs was represented by Christopher Burke, with both counsel present in Court;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court carefully reviewed the Points and Authorities submitted by the parties, and read the applicable case law;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AN DECREED that the Court specifically finds and holds that neither Brian Power America, Inc. nor its attorney, John W. Muije were in contempt of court;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court specifically finds and holds that neither Brain Power America, Inc. or its attorney John W. Muije violated either the automatic stay or the discharge injunction;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Debtor's reliance on the Nevada Supreme Court decision in Contrevo is misplaced, insofar as Contrevo deals with a different set of facts, i.e., a homestead which was perfected prior to the recording of the judgment lien;

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Debtor's citation to the Nevada Supreme Court decisions in *Herndon vs. Grilz*, 112 Nev., 873, 878 and *In Re Wally's* Estate, 11 Nev. 259, 264-265 (1876) are misplaced, insofar as both cases merely reaffirm the longstanding Nevada proposition that a homestead can be recorded and perfected at any time prior to a judicial sale to preclude or prevent said judicial sale, but that neither case reached the issue as to the validity of a perfected judgment lien upon a subsequently recorded homestead;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court expressly finds and holds that Brain Power properly perfected its original judgment lien herein in October. 2002, and that the Debtor never appealed nor properly challenged the same, despite being aware of the renewal of that judgment lien in 2008, until the present proceedings;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that under Nevada law, as applied by this Court, the renewal of an existing judgment lien is a mere ministerial act, acting "In Rem," and exerts a judgment creditor's rights against the property, and that said judgment lien is perfected only against the property, but not against the original judgment debtor, when the actual underlying judgment debt has been discharged in bankruptcy;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED stated in other way, that the judgment lien is perfected and operates In Rem, but no longer impacts or has any effect in persona as regards the Debtor in this case, Debra L. Jacobs:

Based upon the above and foregoing, the Court hereby denies, with prejudice, Debtor's Motion to Hold Brain Power and its counsel in contempt or to impose sanctions against them for their conduct in renewing their previously perfected judgment lien.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court also recognizes that Brain Power and its counsel filed and served a Motion for Rule 9011 Sanctions against Debtor and her counsel in these proceedings;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court finds that the filing of the original Motion for Contempt was not brought in bad faith, insofar as the factual pattern and the legal issues bearing thereon were complex. A substantial amount of review,

JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES
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Facsimile: 702-386-9135
Email: <u>jmuije@muijelawoffice.com</u>
Attorneys for Creditor and
Counsel, individually

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

#### DISTRICT OF NEVADA

CASE NO: BK-S-04-19619-GS

CHAPTER 13

Debtor.

### **NOTICE OF CROSS-APPEAL**

COME NOW, BRAIN POWER AMERICA, INC., by and through their counsel, JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ., of the Law Offices of JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES, and hereby appeals under 28 U.S.C. §158(a) and B.R. 8002(a)(3), the Bankruptcy Court's Order Addressing Various Requests for Relief and Briefly Maintaining Open Status of File, entered on January 27, 2015 in the above-

#### Case 2:15-cv-00533-JAD Document 3 Filed 03/30/15 Page 11 of 26

	1 2 3	entitled matter. (See Ex. "A", Docket #224). The Parties to the Appeal of this Order and the names and addresses of their respective attorneys are as follows:					
	4 5 6 7 8	Brain Power America, Inc.  and John W. Muije  c/o Christopher P. Burke, Esq.  218 South Maryland Parkway  Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  Debra L. Jacobs  c/o Christopher P. Burke, Esq.  218 South Maryland Parkway  Las Vegas, Nevada 89101					
Phone: (702) 386-7002 Fax: (702) 386-9135	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 2419 1840 East Sahara Avenue, Suite 106 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: (702) 386-7002 Attorney for Creditor and Counsel, individually					
	26 27						

28

# EXHIBIT "A"

1 2 3 Honorable Gary Spraker United States Bankruptcy Judge tered on Docket nuary 27, 2015 6 7 8 ORDR 9 JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES JOHN W. MUIJE, ESO. 10 Nevada Bar No. 2419 1840 E. Sahara Ave #106 11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: (702) 386-7002 JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES Facsimile No: (702) 386-9135 E-Mail: jmuije@muijelawoffice.com 12 13 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Creditor Brain Power America Incorporated 14 15 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 16 DISTRICT OF NEVADA 17 Phone: In Re: 18 Case No: BK-S-04-19619-G\$ DEBRA L. JACOBS. 19 Chapter 13 Debtor(s). 20 Date of Hearing: Dec. 15, 2014 21 Time of Hearing: 2:30 P.M. 22 ORDER ADDRESSING VARIOUS REQUESTS FOR RELIEF AND 23 BRIEFLY MAINTAINING OPEN STATUS OF FILE 24 This matter came on for hearing upon the Debtor's Motion to Reopen Chapter 13 Case and 25 to Hold John W. Muije and Brain Power America Incorporated In Contempt (Docket No. 193), the 26 Court having considered the parties briefing regarding the same and having entered a preliminary 27 28

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Order providing for the limited reopening of the case (Docket No. 206), and having requested supplemental briefing regarding perfection of Brain Power America, Inc. (hereinafter "Brain Power") judgment lien vis a vis the subsequently recorded homestead of the debtor, pursuant to the Court's prior ordered Brain Power also having filed a Motion for Rule 9011 Sauctions against the Debtor and her counsel, Christopher Burke, the Court having very carefully reviewed and considered the various pleadings, briefs, and documents on file herein and having reviewed the applicable case law and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court entertained a final hearing on the time and date noted above, after having afforded the parties an opportunity to file supplemental briefs on or about December 8, 2014;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Brain Power was represented by John W. Muije of the firm of John W. Muije & Associates, and the Debtor, Debra L. Jacobs was represented by Christopher Burke, with both counsel present in Court;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court carefully reviewed the Points and Authorities submitted by the parties, and read the applicable case law;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AN DECREED that the Court specifically finds and holds that neither Brian Power America, Inc. nor its attorney, John W. Muije were in contempt of court;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court specifically finds and holds that neither Brain Power America, Inc. or its attorney John W. Muije violated either the automatic stay or the discharge injunction;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Debtor's reliance on the Nevada Supreme Court decision in Contrevo is misplaced, insofar as Contrevo deals with a different set of facts, i.e., a homestead which was perfected prior to the recording of the judgment lien;

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Debtor's citation to the Nevada Supreme Court decisions in Herndon vs. Grilz, 112 Nev., 873, 878 and In Re Wally's Estate, 11 Nev. 259, 264-265 (1876) are misplaced, insofar as both cases merely reaffirm the longstanding Nevada proposition that a homestead can be recorded and perfected at any time prior to a judicial sale to preclude or prevent said judicial sale, but that neither case reached the issue as to the validity of a perfected judgment lien upon a subsequently recorded homestead;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court expressly finds and holds that Brain Power properly perfected its original judgment lien herein in October, 2002, and that the Debtor never appealed nor properly challenged the same, despite being aware of the renewal of that judgment fien in 2008, until the present proceedings;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that under Nevada law, as applied by this Court, the renewal of an existing judgment lien is a mere ministerial act, acting "In Rem," and exerts a judgment creditor's rights against the property, and that said judgment lien is perfected only against the property, but not against the original judgment debtor, when the actual underlying judgment debt has been discharged in bankruptcy;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED stated in other way, that the judgment lien is perfected and operates In Rem, but no longer impacts or has any effect in persona as regards the Debtor in this case, Debra L. Jacobs;

Based upon the above and foregoing, the Court hereby denies, with prejudice, Debtor's Motion to Hold Brain Power and its counsel in contempt or to impose sanctions against them for their conduct in renewing their previously perfected judgment lien.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court also recognizes that Brain Power and its counsel filed and served a Motion for Rule 9011 Sanctions against Debtor and her counsel in these proceedings:

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Court finds that the filing of the original Motion for Contempt was not brought in bad faith, insofar as the factual pattern and the legal issues bearing thereon were complex. A substantial amount of review,

	1	consideration, and research were even necessary for the Court, in determining the interplay between						
	2	the bankruptcy process, Nevada homestend laws, and Nevada judgment lien and judgment creditor						
	3	rights, and accordingly, the Court denies without prejudice the request for 9011 Sanctions as against						
	4	Debtor and her counsel, Christopher P. Burke,						
	.5	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, based upon the request						
	6	of Christopher P. Burke in open Court, that this case will remain open for an additional 45 days						
	.7	subsequent to the entry of this Order, in order to deal with and address any administrative matters						
	8	that may arise,						
	9	DATED this day of, 20,						
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	11	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE						
Ë	12	On the service of the						
CAT Series	13	Submitted by:						
ASSOCIATES NVE. #105 NVE.	14	JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES						
RA AS	15							
S T BY	16	JOHN W. MULYE, ESQ.						
MULI 1800 E. St AS YEGAS VEI 386-7	12	Nevada Bar Nó. 2419 1840 E. Sahara Ave #106						
JOHN W. MIL 1840E. 187VE. Phone: (772)38	18	Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: 702-386-7002						
Ę <sup>t</sup>	19	Facsimile No: 702-386-9135 E-Mail: jnuije@muijelawoffice.com						
•	20	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Creditor Brain Power America Incorporated						
	21	APPROVED/DISAPPROVED:						
	22	1+1-1						
	23	Christopher P. Burke, Esq.						
	24	Nevada Bar No. 004093 218 South Maryland Parkway						
	25	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: 702-385-7987						
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	27	Attorney for Debtors for this proceeding only						
	28							

Page -5-

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Email: jmuije@muijelawoffice.com
Attorneys for Creditor and
Counsel, individually

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

#### DISTRICT OF NEVADA

In Re:

DEBRA LEIGH JACOBS,

CASE NO: BK-S-04-19619-GS

CHAPTER 13

Debtor.

#### NOTICE OF CROSS-APPEAL

COME NOW, BRAIN POWER AMERICA, INC., by and through their counsel, JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ., of the Law Offices of JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES, and hereby appeals under 28 U.S.C. §158(a) and B.R. 8002(a)(3), the Bankruptcy Court's Order Addressing Various Requests for Relief and Briefly Maintaining Open Status of File, entered on January 27, 2015 in the above....

#### Case 2:15-cv-00533-JAD Document 3 Filed 03/30/15 Page 19 of 26

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and addresses o	of their res	pective attorney	s are as	follows:				

Brain Power America, Inc. and John W. Muije c/o John W. Muije, Esq. 1840 East Sahara Avenue Suite 106 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Debra L. Jacobs c/o Christopher P. Burke, Esq. 218 South Maryland Parkway Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

DATED this 24th day of February, 2015.

JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 2419

1840 East Sahara Avenue, Suite 106

Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: (702) 386-7002

Attorney for Creditor and Counsel, individually

# EXHIBIT "A"

1 2 3 Honorable Gary Spraker United States Bankruptcy Judge tered on Docket nuary 27, 2015 6 7 8 ORDR 9 JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES JOHN W. MUIJE, ESO. 10 Nevada Bar No. 2419 1840 E. Sahara Ave #106 11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: (702) 386-7002 JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES Facsimile No: (702) 386-9135 E-Mail: jmuije@muijelawoffice.com 12 13 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Creditor Brain Power America Incorporated 14 15 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 16 DISTRICT OF NEVADA 17 Phone: In Re: 18 Case No: BK-S-04-19619-G\$ DEBRA L. JACOBS. 19 Chapter 13 Debtor(s). 20 Date of Hearing: Dec. 15, 2014 21 Time of Hearing: 2:30 P.M. 22 ORDER ADDRESSING VARIOUS REQUESTS FOR RELIEF AND 23 BRIEFLY MAINTAINING OPEN STATUS OF FILE 24 This matter came on for hearing upon the Debtor's Motion to Reopen Chapter 13 Case and 25 to Hold John W. Muije and Brain Power America Incorporated In Contempt (Docket No. 193), the 26 Court having considered the parties briefing regarding the same and having entered a preliminary 27 28

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Based upon the above and foregoing, the Court hereby denies, with prejudice, Debtor's Motion to Hold Brain Power and its counsel in contempt or to impose sanctions against them for their conduct in renewing their previously perfected judgment lien.

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	3	rights, and accordingly, the Court denies without prejudice the request for 9011 Sanctions as against
	4	Debtor and her counsel, Christopher P. Burke,
	.5	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, based upon the request
	6	of Christopher P. Burke in open Court, that this case will remain open for an additional 45 days
	.7	subsequent to the entry of this Order, in order to deal with and address any administrative matters
	8	that may arise,
	9	DATED this day of, 20,
	10	
	11	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE
Ë	12	
CAT Series	13	Submitted by:
ASSOCIATES NVE. #105 NVE.	14	JOHN W. MUIJE & ASSOCIATES
RANE STANE	15	
	16	JOHN W. MULYE, ESQ.
V. MUU 1850 E. CAS VEK	12	Nevada Bar No. 2419 1840 E. Sahara Aye #106
LAW O) JOHN W. MULIE 1840 E. SAHA US.YEGAS, N Phone: (702) 386,7002	18	Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone: 702-386-7002
Ę É	19	Facsimile No: 702-386-9135 E-Mail: jnuije@nuijelawoffice.com
	20	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Creditor Brain Power America Incorporated
	21	APPROVED/DISAPPROVED:
	22	1+1-1
	23	By: See Allached Christopher P. Burke, Esq.
	24	Nevada Bar No. 004093 218 South Maryland Parkway
	25	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: 702-385-7987
	26	Facsimile: 702-385-7986 B-Mail: <u>atty@cburke.lvcoxmail.com</u>
	27	Attorney for Debtors for this proceeding only
	28	

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## **U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel** of the Ninth Circuit

125 South Grand Avenue, Pasadena, California 91105 Appeals from Central California (626) 229-7220 Appeals from all other Districts (626) 229-7225

In Re: DEBRA LEIGH JACOBS	<b>BAP No.:</b> NV-15-1048 & NV-15-1064			
<b>Bk. Ct. No.:</b> 04-19619	ADV. NO.:			
<b>Bk. Ct. No.:</b> 04-19619	ADV. NO.:			
NOTICE OF TRANSFE	CR OF APPEAL TO DISTRICT COURT			
The Panel has issued an Order transferri attached.)	ing these appeals to the District Court. (Copy of order			
Consequently, these appeals are herewit	h transferred to your court.			
Susan M Spraul, BAP Clerk				
By: Edwina Clay, Deputy Clerk Date: March 30, 2015				
	Please acknowledge receipt of the case file listed above.  Dated:			
	Signed: District Court Deputy			
	Assigned District Court No.			
cc: Bankruptcy Court				

All Parties